## Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

November 9, 2021

The Honourable Bill Blair Minister of Emergency Preparedness 269 Laurier Avenue West Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A8 Canada The Honourable Marco E.L. Mendicino Minister of Public Safety 365 Laurier Avenue West Ottawa, Canada K1A 1L1 Canada

Dear Ministers Blair and Mendicino,

We write to you regarding the testing requirement for fully vaccinated individuals crossing the border from the United States into Canada. Since such a requirement is not imposed for entry into the United States across the land border, we believe this supplemental requirement to produce a negative molecular Covid-19 test to enter Canada creates unnecessary confusion and risks hindering the full benefits of the recent U.S. border reopening.

We are aware of the hardships imposed on communities on both sides of the border due to the Biden Administration's delay in reopening border crossings into the United States, and we are grateful for the leadership of our Canadian friends who secured a reopening of the border to American travelers on August 9<sup>th</sup>. However, now that both countries have restored non-essential travel at border crossings, it is only logical we achieve parity in the Covid-19 requirements for travelers. Our border communities have awaited a return to normal cross-border travel for more than 19 months; we should not risk the full benefits afforded to our citizens from this reopening due to the confusion and additional burden posed by the Covid-19 testing requirement.

Constituents on both sides of the U.S. – Canada border, from states and provinces across our respective countries, expect our governments to do everything we can to achieve a return to normalcy at the border. As such, we urge the Canadian Government to drops its requirement for a negative Covid-19 test for vaccinated travelers seeking to enter Canada across the land border.

We look forward to working with you on this effort to restore bilateral coordination following the long-overdue reopening of the U.S. northern border.

Sincerely,

Elise Stefanik

Member of Congress

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Chris Jacobs

Member of Congress

Pete Stauber Member of Congress Dusty Johnson Member of Congress

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